

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a sebaceous gland disorder comprising the steps of

a) topically applying an energy activatable material to a section of skin afflicted with a sebaceous gland disorder, wherein said material is activated by energy which penetrates outer layers of epidermis,

b) iontophoretically causing a sufficient amount of said material to infiltrate into spaces in said skin, said sufficient amount of material preferentially accumulating in at least one sebaceous gland relative to interstitial tissue; and

c) exposing said section of skin to energy sufficient to cause said material to become photochemically or photothermally activated, thereby treating said sebaceous gland disorder.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said energy activatable material is selected from the group consisting of chromophore containing groups, carbon particles and iron oxides.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, wherein said chromophore containing group is methylene blue.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~chromophore~~ energy activatable material containing group is a laser sensitive material.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said laser sensitive material is methylene blue.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said energy activatable material is suspended in a pharmaceutical carrier.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for modifying the opening to the infundibulum comprising the steps of:

a) topically applying an energy activatable material to the opening to the infundibulum, wherein said material is activated by energy which penetrates outer layers of epidermis,

b) iontophoretically causing a sufficient amount of said material to infiltrate into spaces about said infundibulum, said sufficient amount of material preferentially accumulating into the infundibulum relative to interstitial tissue; and

c) exposing said section of skin with sufficient energy to cause said material to become photochemically or photothermally activated, thereby modifying said opening to the infundibulum.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for modifying the pilosebaceous unit comprising the steps of:

a) topically applying an energy activatable material to the pilosebaceous unit, wherein said material is activated by energy which penetrates outer layers of epidermis,

b) iontophoretically causing a sufficient amount of said material to infiltrate the pilosebaceous unit, said sufficient amount of material preferentially accumulating into the pilosebaceous unit relative to interstitial tissue; and

c) exposing said section of skin with sufficient energy to cause said material to become photochemically or photothermally activated, thereby modifying the pilosebaceous unit.

9. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein exposing said section of skin with sufficient energy does not substantially result in fragmentation or vaporization of photochemically or photothermally activated material.

10. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said energy activatable material is selected from the group consisting of chromophore containing groups, carbon particles and iron oxides.

11. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said chromophore containing group is methylene blue.

12. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein exposing said section of skin with sufficient energy modifies said opening to the infundibulum such that pore pluggage will not occur.

13. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein exposing said section of skin with sufficient energy opens said opening to the infundibulum.
14. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein said energy activatable material is selected from the group consisting of chromophore containing groups, carbon particles and iron oxides.
15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said chromophore containing group is methylene blue.
16. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein exposing said section of skin with sufficient energy causes a decrease in sebum production by the modified pilosebaceous unit.